

NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 95-07

Date: 01 February 2007 (original 2 March 1993 and 6 December 1995)

Pamphlet Number: NFPA 1 (2003); NFPA 24 (2002)

Section(s): 13.5.1; 5.5, 6.3, 6.4, Annex A.6.3.1

Comments:

Post indicator valve requirements. This applies to NFPA 13 systems only.

Question: Are post indicator valves (PIVs) required in all private fire service mains? Must the PIV be forty feet from a building?

Response: Yes, PIVs shall be provided in all private fire service mains for NFPA 13 systems unless one of the alternative following methods is approved by the AHJ:

1. Listed control valves installed in a cut-off stair tower or valve room accessible from the outside.
2. Listed control valves located in risers with indicating posts arranged for outside operations.
3. Listed control valves located in an accessible pit.

When an outside PIV is provided and cannot be located forty feet from the building it may be necessary to locate it closer to the building, though at the greatest distance possible. A wall PIV may be used if it is set in a location of a blank wall (i.e., stair tower) so the possibility of injury or damage from falling debris is less likely. Roadway boxes, if approved by the local fire department, may remain in use.

NFPA 13R and 13D systems do not require the water supply piping to comply with NFPA 24 and these systems do not require post indicator valves. However, if PIVs are installed in the service mains for these systems, the installation shall be in accordance with NFPA 24.

Signature:

Date: 02/01/07

Title: John E. Falgione, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal